

HISTORY OF THE PLOW AND PRUNING-HOOK.

As the first decade anniversary of the Universal Peace Union approached, which happily occurred upon the opening of the International Exposition of the United States of America, during Centennial year, and singularly too, upon the anniversary of the Treaty of Washington which led to the Geneva Arbitration, propositions were made that military men be invited to surrender their swords for conversion into useful implements. Thomas Atkinson, a farmer in Indiana, promptly offered ten dollars for the first sword so presented. The first response came from Col. A. Greusel, of Iowa, who had carried his sword through the Mexican war, and in the war for the preservation of the Union. He, like almost every soldier, felt attached to his sword, and had desired to transmit it to his children; nevertheless, he presented it to the president of the Universal Peace Union, with the word that he was converted to the principles of Peace. It was received in Carpenters' Hall, Philadelphia, where the first Continental Congress had met about one hundred years previously, and where the declaration of war with Great Britain had been made. The time, place, and circumstances, were significant and opportune. The Universal Peace Union presented a Declaration of Peace, which was unanimously adopted by a large audience. Upon the reception of the sword, Thomas Atkinson offered five dollars for the first pruning hook manufactured from it. Clayton B. Rogers, of Philadelphia, promptly had the pruning-hook made, and the next day it was placed upon the platform. At this moment Col. David B. Franklin, of Pennsylvania, came forward and said he had carried his sword during the Rebellion, but believing in the principles of Peace, he would present it to the Society. Other swords were offered, and among them one was accepted from Edwin H. Coates, who had received it from the widow of an officer of the Union army, who did not wish to see it longer, as her husband had lost his life in the war. From these swords Clayton B. Rogers made the plow and the pruning-hooks. Those sent to the Paris Exposition were handsomely nickel-plated. The plow represents a patent of 1874 for making furrows close or wide. It was photographed by Broadbent & Phillips, and when Capt. Badger, of the "Constitution," heard its history, he said it should go to Paris "even if he had to take it in his own cabin." As no space had been obtained in the Exposition Building, the "Constitution" sailed without this exhibit, but through the kindness of George W. Childs and the U. S. Commissioner-General, Robert H. McCormick, it was taken by the U. S. Ship "Portsmouth." It is proposed after the Exposition closes, to present the plow and pruning-hook to Geneva, Switzerland, to be deposited in the same hall of the Hotel de Ville where the immortal Tribunal of Arbitration met, and which had just before been occupied by the Society for the Succor of the Wounded. It is thought here would be a fitting place for the permanent deposit of these emblems of Peace, and that there might be in it an influence for righteousness that would extend throughout the world.



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"We are met on the broad pathway of good faith and good will, so that no advantage is to be taken on either side, but all to be openness, brotherhood, and love."

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Philadelphia,

July 16th 1878

Wm Lloyd Garrison

My dear friend:

It is always with peculiar pleasure that I write you now. This time it is with the hope that a reply will come accepting the earnest invitation of many to attend the Annual Groves Peace Meeting at Mystic Conn. where 2000 to 3000 persons gather for two days.

I promised our friends in Conn. that I would write you a personal request to comply. Of all times this will be the most important. Hence I make it a special and urgent invitation for the 22nd & 23rd of August. Be there either day, before and write Zerah C Whipple Mystic River Conn, or the day of the meeting, & some one will be at the Station with a carriage & you will have comfortable quarters with the good friends. I hope to be present and the manner of meeting reminds me as much as anything, of the Proprium Friends. So without more of urging let me hear the yes, I will.

What a time for a Peace Meeting! What an end

that our eyes this spring see

And our ears have heard the sound.

Just to think we have here
our Peace year at the Peace
Meeting

Geneva - and now Berlin!

John is the son you took in
a Mr Marshall of home -

There will be some persons present I know you will be
pleased to meet, and many years then have been inquiries
for you. Remember dear friend, time will not wait,
your roll on. Let these good young spirits coming
to the point, see, feel & hear you.

Said I would not write further - but inadvertently, I
have done so.

Last Friday day, with Henry Peterson, formerly editor of the
Lat Exg Post. we were talking of you, of Penn Hall, Chas
Rendlegh - dear faithful one - and of all the old times. He
is my cousin, but never quite radical enough for me.

We often think back of you & your family. I hope
all are abundantly blessed. My kindest regards to all.

My own little flock is still unbroken. Wife enjoying
almost the same health, never the best, but enough to keep
her always among the most active. Daughters Lillie & Son
Will are well. But John our 14 year boy is suffering
with lameness. His right leg for a year & a half has
pained him & is not straight, some accident or some over exertion
we fear. At times, & now generally, the crutch has to be used.

He this sister may go to the Delaware State Gap to-morrow.
What shall we say or do for Est Heywood? He was not
very considerate of our feelings ten years ago, but we may
perhaps do him good now. I cannot believe it right to im-
prison him. By what right does a Govt official open tread
postal matter? I have not read the, so-called, offensive article. At
I have not corresponded either by letter or by nature for many
years. Still I am glad to serve him. May good health & manifold

Respectfully
Dear cordially your friend

Alfred Love